

County of Los Angeles

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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July 9, 2001

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From:

To:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Officer

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Status of County Interest Legislation

County-opposed AB 147 (Longville), which gives sheriffs exclusive authority to ensure that a county's information technology equipment connected to the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) complies with the CLETS security requirements, was signed into law as Chapter 34, Statutes of 2001.

The County was concerned that ambiguous language in AB 147 might undermine the existing memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Sheriff, ISD and the CIO regarding each agency's role in the coordination of purchases and use of information technology system hardware and software among the three departments. The County was also worried that AB 147 could modify the County's charter powers governing the acquisition of personal property for the County and its officers, including the acquisition of telecommunication equipment. The Sheriff has committed to abide by the MOU.

County-opposed AB 934 (Hertzberg) is set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Local Government on Monday, July 16, 2001. For property tax appeals, this bill would allow a competing factual record to be established in superior court ("trial de novo") notwithstanding the fact that the factual record is established in county assessment appeals boards or county boards of equalization.

This bill will create an incentive for large, sophisticated taxpayers to take property tax appeals to superior court. The County will have to hire additional resources to defend those cases through trial. Without additional resources, the County may be compelled to

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settle those cases regardless of the facts and the validity of the original assessment. The County's advocates will continue to oppose this measure vigorously.

We will keep you advised.

DEJ:GK DW:lm

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Coalition of County Unions
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